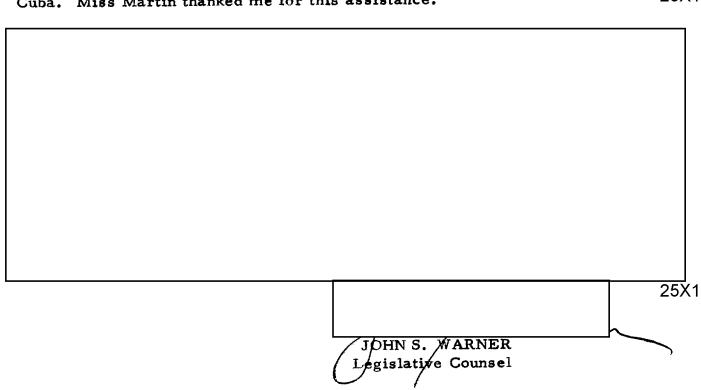
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George A. Smathers, called to say that the Senator has received a number of letters from constituents who have expressed concern about the reports that there were Soviet missile bases in Cuba. She said she has contacted State Department on this and State indicated they have no information to this effect. She wished to include in the Senator's letters a statement to the effect that he has been in touch with State and CIA and neither State nor the Agency can confirm such reports. I suggested Miss Martin delete the specific reference to CIA and merely state the Senator has been in touch with the State Department and other appropriate agencies and has been informed that while this situation is being followed closely there is no evidence to support these reports that there are Soviet missile bases in Cuba. Miss Martin thanked me for this assistance.

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Colorel Gragan

Colonel Grogan